Irrigation project is accepted unless it is countersigned by the Deputy Commissioner. The general principle is thus observed in practice. In the individual case in question, this principle was fully attended to as far as possible, and after a consideration of the comparative merits of both projects, the lower channel was undertaken as having the first claim upon the Government.

Mr. Srinivasa Rao then suggested that the channel such as it is should be extended to make it remunerative and the Dewan replied that further extension, if practicable, would be undertaken in due course. The point was noted for consideration in the Public Works Department.

Subject No. 5.

Management of religious and charitable institutions.

Summary of discussion.—The object of Government endowments in land and money to religious and charitable institutions in the Province is not fulfilled to the fullest extent owing partly to the indiscretion or misconduct of the managers of those institutions or want of sufficient supervision on the part of local officers. Endowments to the different Matts such as the Sringeri, Uttaradi and Vyasarai, for example, are given for the diffusion of learning in general, and particularly of a knowledge of the tenets of the particular sects to which the Matts respectively belong, and also for charity. But there is little done in these Matts for imparting religious instruction. Much money is wasted on the relations of the Matt Guru or his dependants; and the Matt Priests themselves do little more than take cognizance of offences against caste rules and condone faults by levying penalties. They should at least establish Sanskrit classes for instruction and issue tracts for the spread of religious knowledge. Arrangements should be made to enforce the purposes of the endowments and to secure better supervision.

Similar representations were made from other Districts also. A representative from Kolar District added that owing to the failure of prescribed services in the places of worship of the various sects which were endowed by Government, there was a failure of seasonable rains and recurrence of epidemics. A representative from the Shimoga District suggested that local Panchayats should be appointed to look after these institutions in the first instance. A representative from Chitaldroog would have Government take charge of all religious institutions, even those not now under Muzarayi management and administer their affairs through the agency of Dharmakartas.

Dewan's reply.—A movement for reformation of the kind suggested for Matts should originate with the people. There is no doubt that the Matts are bound to provide an adequate Educational agency, but it is not possible for the Government

to take any steps to enforce this obligation so long as the people remain more or less apathetic in the matter. In the absence of a very general popular demand in the matter, any Government interference is likely to be resented as an unjust invasion of the privileges of the Matts. Sometime ago an attempt was made by some influential persons to get the various Matts to contribute towards Vedantic teaching in Bangalore and Mysore, but except Sringeri and Parakala, no other Matt responded to the call at all. This would never have been the case had there existed a strong public opinion on the subject. The time apparently has not arrived for Government interference. More supervision of Government Muzarayi institutions by its officers will be ordered. But the utility of appointing local Panchayats is extremely doubtful and a sytem of Dharmakartas has proved a failure elsewhere. Government taking charge of institutions not now under Muzarayi management is out of the question. (See also Subject No. 112 below.)

Subject No. 6. Halat on Supari.

Summary of discussion.—The hardship of the existing halat of 12 annas per maund on supari in addition to the assessment on the land on which the supari is grown formed the subject of representation by representatives from all the Districts except Kolar. The following gentlemen spoke on the subject:—

Name.	Taluk.	District.
Mr. C. Srinivasa Rao	... Chikmagalur	... Kadur.
„ Nadig Swami Rao ...		
„ Narasingappa ...	} Hosnali...	... Shimoga.
„ Shanbhog Venkappa ...		
„ Hosadurga Seshachar ...	Holalkere	... Chitaldrug.
„ Saukar Rêvanna ...		
„ Patel Siddegauda ...	} T. Narsipur	... Mysore.
„ Venkatarangaiya ...	Hassan ...	...
„ Hanumanta Chetti ...	Arkalgud	... } Hassan.
„ Rachettappa ...	Maddagiri	...
„ Srinivas Rao ...	Pavagada	... } Tumkur.
„ A. Shamaiengar ...	Kunigal	...

Their representations were to the effect that with the heavy halat on the produce and a comparatively high assessment on the land, the margin of profit to the grower of arecanut was very small indeed. He was put to considerable expense first in growing the trees during the ten years which they took to come into bearing and afterwards in maintaining them; a garden required constant attention all the year round and the value of the product it yielded was insignificant compared with the expenditure of labor and capital. It pays a heavy land tax and the sayer in addition is most onerous. The system of sayer had also a demoralizing effect on the